

What is claimed is:

1. A position-information managing method for managing positions of a plurality of nodes connected to a network, the method permitting calculation of position information about any one of the nodes not furnished with any own-position detection unit by use of network routing information for allowing the nodes to communicate with one another, position information about any one of the nodes which has an own-position detection unit, and/or position information about any one of the nodes which has a predetermined position.

2. A position-information managing method according to claim 1, wherein the method permits display of the positions of the plurality of nodes by use of the position information about the node having the own-position detection unit, the position information about the node with the predetermined position, and the calculated position information.

3. A position-information managing method according to claim 2, wherein the network routing information includes distance information about logical distances between each of the plurality of nodes and the other nodes, and wherein the method permits calculation of the position information about the node with no own-position detection unit in accordance with the logical distance information.

4. A position-information managing method according to claim 3, wherein the logical distance information is constituted by the number of hops.

5. A position-information managing method according to claim 3, wherein the position information about the node with no own-position detection unit is calculated using as a coefficient the distance over which a wireless communications unit of the node in question can communicate directly with any other node.

6. A position-information managing method according to claim 3, wherein the positions of the nodes are displayed together with lines connecting any two nodes that can communicate directly with each other.

7. A network system having a plurality of nodes connected via a network, the system comprising a connection-configuration display server having a unit for graphically indicating positions of the plurality of nodes;

wherein the plurality of nodes are constituted at least by a node having an own-position detection unit and/or a node having a predetermined position, and by a node with no own-position detection unit; and

wherein the connection-configuration display server calculates position information about the node with no own-position detection unit by use of network routing information for allowing the plurality of nodes to communicate with one another, position information about the node having the own-position detection unit, and/or position information about the node having the predetermined position, the connection-configuration display server further displaying positions of the plurality of nodes based on the calculated position information.

8. A network system according to claim 7, wherein the connection-configuration display server when displaying the positions of the nodes indicates lines connecting any two nodes that can communicate directly with each other.

9. A network system according to claim 8, wherein each of the plurality of nodes transmits network routing information owned by the node in question to the connection-configuration display server; and

wherein the connection-configuration display server receives the network routing information from the plurality of nodes.

10. A network system according to claim 9, wherein any one of the plurality of nodes which has the own-position detection unit transmits the position information acquired by the unit to the connection-configuration display server; and

wherein the connection-configuration display server receives the network routing information and the acquired position information.